Objection Deadline: 2/6/09

Hearing: 2/13/09 @ 10:00 a.m.

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Counsel for AOL LLC

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA RICHMOND DIVISION

	X	
In re:)	Chantar 11
mile.)	Chapter 11
CIRCUIT CITY STORES, INC., et al.,)	Case No. 08-35653-KRH
Debtors.))	Jointly Administered Judge Kevin R. Huennekens
	X	

MOTION OF AOL LLC FOR PAYMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE CLAIM

AOL LLC ("AOL" or "Movant") respectfully moves the Court pursuant to Sections 364 and 503 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") to compel payment of AOL's administrative claim. In support of this Motion, AOL states as follows:

BACKGROUND

- 1. On or about May 10, 2005, AOL and one or more of the above-captioned debtors ("Circuit City" or "Debtors") entered into that certain inStore Insertion Order Agreement (as amended from time to time, including without limitation on March 28, 2006, March 16, 2007, and March 11, 2008, the "Shopping AOL I/O Agreement"), pursuant to which, among other things, AOL provided certain advertising services (the "Services").
- 2. On November 10, 2008 (the "Petition Date"), Debtors commenced the Bankruptcy Cases by filing their voluntary petitions (the "Petitions") for relief under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Virginia (the "Court").
- 3. From and after the Petition Date, the Debtors have managed their affairs as debtors-in-possession.
- 4. Pursuant to the Shopping AOL I/O Agreement, AOL provided certain post-petition advertising services to Circuit City (the "Post-Petition Services"). Specifically, from the Petition Date through January 16, 2009, AOL provided Post-Petition Services to the Debtors totaling at least \$146,670.97, thereby providing a benefit to the Debtors' estate. See Exhibits A, B and C (Invoices for Post-Petition Services).
- 5. The amounts owed by Circuit City to AOL for the Post-Petition Services were actual, necessary costs and expenses of preserving the Debtors' estate and are unsecured debts incurred by Circuit City in the ordinary course of its business.

¹ Due to the proprietary and confidential nature of the Shopping AOL I/O Agreement, AOL did not attach copies to this Motion. Circuit City is presumably in possession of the Shopping AOL I/O Agreement; if not, Movants will provide a copy upon request. Moreover, and to the extent necessary, Movants can provide the Agreements to the Court for *in camera* review or file the Shopping AOL I/O Agreement under seal.

- 6. Payment of the first invoice for the Post-Petition Services was due on January 21, 2009 (the "Past Due Invoice"). See Exhibit A. As of January 23, 2009, Circuit City has failed to pay AOL on account of the Past Due Invoice, notwithstanding Circuit City's assurances that payments would be made timely. See Exhibit A. The Past Due Invoice totals \$37,116.11. Id.
- 7. Subsequent invoices for additional Post-Petition Services reflect due dates of February 12, 2009 and February 20, 2009. <u>See</u> Exhibits B and C. Specifically, one invoice for Post-Petition Services due on February 12, 2009 totals an additional \$87,944.08; another invoice for Post-Petition Services due on February 20, 2009 totals \$21,610.78. <u>See</u> Exhibits B and C.
- 8. To the extent that Circuit City pays AOL in whole or in part on account of the Post-Petition Services prior to the February 13, 2009 omnibus hearing date, AOL will amend the relief sought in this Motion to reflect such payment(s).

JURISDICTION

9. The Court has jurisdiction over this matter under Sections 157 and 1334 of Title 28 of the United States Code ("Title 28"). This is a core proceeding pursuant to Section 157(b)(2) of Title 28. The venue of this case and this Motion is proper under Sections 1408 and 1409 of Title 28.

RELIEF REQUESTED

10. Pursuant to Sections 364(a) and 503(b)(1)(A) of the Bankruptcy Code, AOL is entitled to the allowance of an administrative claim for the Post-Petition Services provided to the Debtors (the "Administrative Claim"). Accordingly, AOL respectfully requests

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that this Court enter an order allowing the Administrative Claim and requiring Debtors to promptly pay AOL on account of this Administrative Claim.

ARGUMENT

- 11. Section 503(b)(1)(A) of the Bankruptcy Code expressly provides that an administrative claim "shall be allowed" for "the actual, necessary costs and expenses of preserving the estate." 11 U.S.C. § 503(b)(1)(A). Further, unsecured debt that a debtor in possession incurs in the ordinary course of business is allowable under Section 503(b)(1) as an administrative expense. 11 U.S.C. § 364(a).
- 12. Courts generally apply a two-part test in determining whether a claimant such as AOL is entitled to payment of administrative expenses: "(1) the claim must arise out of a post-petition transaction between the creditor and the debtor-in-possession (or trustee) and (2) the consideration supporting the claimant's right to payment must be supplied to and beneficial to the debtor-in-possession in the operation of the business." <u>Devan v. Simon DeBartolo Group, L.P. (In re Merry-Go-Round Enters., Inc.)</u>, 180 F.3d 149, 157 (4th Cir.1998); <u>In re Baseline Sports, Inc.</u>, 393 B.R. 105, 130 (Bankr. E.D. Va. 2008).
- 13. Here, the two-part test is readily satisfied. AOL and Circuit City continued to engage in business as usual in accordance with the Shopping AOL I/O Agreement. The Debtors' estate received direct and indirect benefits from the Post-Petition Services. Moreover, the amounts owed by Circuit City to AOL for the Post-Petition Services were actual, necessary costs and expenses of preserving the Debtors' estate and are unsecured debts incurred by Circuit City in the ordinary course of its business. Therefore, AOL is entitled to an administrative claim on account of the Post-Petition Services.

CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, AOL LLC respectfully requests that the Court enter an order allowing the Administrative Claim for \$146,670.97; requiring Debtors to immediately pay AOL on account of the Administrative Claim; and granting such further and other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

DATED: January 23, 2009 Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Malcolm M. Mitchell, Jr.

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Phone: (614) 464-8322 Fax: (614) 719-4663 E-mail: tscobb@vorys.com

Counsel for AOL LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on January 23, 2009, a true and complete copy of the foregoing Motion Of AOL LLC For Payment Of Administrative Expense Claim was served by either First Class Mail, postage prepaid and/or by electronic delivery to all of the parties on the attached Service List in accordance with the Order entered in this case on November 13, 2008, *Establishing Certain Notice, Case Management, and Administrative Procedures*.

/s/ Malcolm M. Mitchell, Jr.

Malcolm M. Mitchell, Jr. (VSB No. 18098) Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP 277 South Washington Street, Suite 310 Alexandria, VA 22314

Telephone: 703-837-6999 Facsimile: 703-549-4492

Counsel for AOL LLC





For Billing Inquiries 877-265-0823 Email SSCSupport@aol.com Tax ID# 20-4268793



CIRCUIT CITY ATTN: STELLA LUCAS 9950 MAYLAND DR. RICHMOND

VA 23233

Invoice Number 266727.

Invoice Date 12/22/2008

Contract Number 9026252

Customer ID	Payment Term	S	PAGE: 1
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AOL (%)

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CIRCUIT CITY
ATTN: STELLA LUCAS
9950 MAYLAND DR.
RICHMOND

VA 23233

Customer ID:000015395 AR Cat: 6020

AOL LLC General Post Office PO Box 5696 New York, NY 10087-5696 Contract Number 9026252

Invoice Number 266727 *

Invoice Date 12/22/2008

Total Amount Due 37,115,115

EXHIBIT

A





For Billing Inquiries 877-265-0823 Email SSCSupport@aol.com Tax ID# 20-4268793



CIRCUIT CITY ATTN: STELLA LUCAS 9950 MAYLAND DR. RICHMOND

VA 23233

Invoice Number 2677/20

Invoice Date 01/13/2009

Contract Number 9026252

Customer ID	Payment Terms	PAGE: 1
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AOL 🔊

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CIRCUIT CITY
ATTN: STELLA LUCAS
9950 MAYLAND DR.
RICHMOND

VA 23233

Customer ID:000015395 AR Cat: 6020

AOL LLC General Post Office PO Box 5696 New York, NY 10087-5696 Contract Number

9026252

Invoice Number

101/13/2009

Total Amount Due

87,944,08

EXHIBIT





For Billing Inquiries 877-265-0823 Email SSCSupport@aol.com Tax ID# 20-4268793



CIRCUIT CITY ATTN: STELLA LUCAS 9950 MAYLAND DR. RICHMOND

VA 23233

Invoice Number

268128

Invoice Date

01/21/2009

Contract Number

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GROS	S AMOUNT:	21,610.78	
Advertiser: Circuit Order ID: 2768179 Reporting Period: 1 CPC Sub-Total: \$11, CPM Sub-Total: \$10, Advertising Flights ***Reporting Attache AOL Ref: 9026252 DA CSR 012109 LH Shoppi NET	2/27/08 - 1/16/09 179.25 431.53 on: AOL Shopping d*** RT 2768179		21,610.78
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AOL 🖗

Please detach here and return this portion with your payment.

CIRCUIT CITY ATTN: STELLA LUCAS 9950 MAYLAND DR. RICHMOND

VA 23233

Customer ID:000015395 AR Cat: 6020

AOL LLC General Post Office PO Box 5696 New York, NY 10087-5696 **Contract Number**

2026252

Invoice Number

i (#128 128 14

Invoice Date

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Total Amount Due

21,610.78

EXHIBIT

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